

CLAIMS

1. (Currently amended) A device, comprising an optical waveguide having a first grating, wherein:
 - at least a portion of the waveguide has a functional layer adapted to bind an analyte;
 - a plurality of grooves in the optical waveguide form the first grating;
 - at least some of the grooves are covered by the functional layer; and
 - when the analyte binds to the functional layer, the binding changes optical characteristics of the waveguide;the first grating has an optical reflection band characterized by a center wavelength; and the binding shifts the center wavelength.
- 2-3. (Canceled)
4. (Previously presented) The device of claim 1, comprising one or more additional optical waveguides, each having a grating, wherein:
 - each grating has an optical reflection band characterized by a center wavelength; and
 - at least two gratings have different reflection bands.
5. (Original) The device of claim 4, further comprising an arrayed waveguide grating (AWG) having an input port and two or more output ports coupled to the two or more optical waveguides, wherein, for each optical waveguide, the AWG is adapted to route light having a corresponding center wavelength from the input port to the output port coupled to said optical waveguide.
6. (Original) The device of claim 5, wherein the AWG and the two or more optical waveguides are implemented in a single integrated device.
7. (Original) The device of claim 4, wherein at least two optical waveguides have different functional layers adapted to bind different analytes.
8. (Original) The device of claim 1, comprising a Mach-Zehnder interferometer (MZI) having two arms, wherein one arm includes the optical waveguide.
9. (Original) The device of claim 8, wherein:
 - the optical waveguide has a second grating; and
 - the first and second gratings form an optical resonator.
10. (Original) The device of claim 9, wherein:
 - a section of the optical waveguide between the first and second gratings has the functional layer; and
 - the binding changes a differential phase shift in the MZI.
11. (Original) The device of claim 1, wherein the first grating is a Bragg grating.
12. (Currently amended) A method for detecting an analyte, comprising:
 - transmitting light through an optical waveguide having a first grating; and

measuring the transmitted light using a photo-detector, wherein:
at least a portion of the waveguide has a functional layer adapted to bind the analyte;
a plurality of grooves in the optical waveguide form the first grating; and
at least some of the grooves are covered by the functional layer; and
when the analyte binds to the functional layer, the binding changes optical characteristics of the waveguide;
the first grating has an optical reflection band characterized by a center wavelength;
and
the binding shifts the center wavelength.

13. (Original) The method of claim 12, wherein the first grating is a Bragg grating.

14-15. (Canceled)

16. (Previously presented) The method of claim 12, further comprising transmitting light through one or more additional optical waveguides, each having a grating;
and
measuring the transmitted light using a plurality of photo-detectors, wherein:
each grating has an optical reflection band characterized by a center wavelength; and
at least two gratings have different reflection bands.

17. (Original) The method of claim 16, further comprising routing light via an arrayed waveguide grating (AWG) having an input port and two or more output ports coupled to the two or more optical waveguides, wherein, for each optical waveguide, the AWG is adapted to route light having a corresponding center wavelength from the input port to the output port coupled to said optical waveguide.

18. (Original) The method of claim 16, wherein at least two optical waveguides have different functional layers adapted to bind different analytes.

19. (Original) The method of claim 12, wherein the optical waveguide is a part of one arm of a Mach-Zehnder interferometer (MZI).

20. (Original) The method of claim 19, wherein:
the optical waveguide has a second grating; and
the first and second gratings form an optical resonator.

21. (Original) The method of claim 20, wherein:
a section of the optical waveguide between the first and second gratings is covered by the functional layer;
the binding changes a differential phase shift in the MZI; and
measuring the transmitted light comprises measuring the differential phase shift.

22. (Original) A device, comprising a Mach-Zehnder interferometer (MZI) having two arms, wherein:
one arm has an optical resonator; and

a section of the resonator has a functional layer adapted to bind an analyte, wherein the optical characteristics of the resonator change, when the analyte binds to the functional layer.

23. (Original) The device of claim 22, wherein:
two Bragg gratings form the optical resonator;
the section having the functional layer is located between the gratings; and
the binding changes a differential phase shift in the MZI.

24. (Canceled)

25. (Previously presented) A device, comprising an optical waveguide having a first grating, wherein:
at least a portion of the waveguide has a functional layer adapted to bind an analyte;
when the analyte binds to the functional layer, the binding changes optical characteristics of the waveguide;
the device further comprises one or more other optical waveguides, each having a grating, wherein:

each grating has an optical reflection band characterized by a center wavelength; and
at least two gratings have different reflection bands; and

the device further comprises an arrayed waveguide grating (AWG) having an input port and two or more output ports coupled to the two or more optical waveguides, wherein, for each optical waveguide, the AWG is adapted to route light having a corresponding center wavelength from the input port to the output port coupled to said optical waveguide.

26. (Canceled)

27. (Previously presented) The device of claim 25, wherein the AWG and the two or more optical waveguides are implemented in a single integrated device.

28. (Previously presented) The device of claim 25, wherein at least two optical waveguides have different functional layers adapted to bind different analytes.

29. (Previously presented) A method for detecting an analyte, comprising:
transmitting light through an optical waveguide having a first grating;
measuring the transmitted light using a photo-detector, wherein:
at least a portion of the waveguide has a functional layer adapted to bind the analyte;
and
when the analyte binds to the functional layer, the binding changes optical characteristics of the waveguide;
transmitting light through one or more other optical waveguides, each having a grating;
measuring the transmitted light using a plurality of photo-detectors, wherein:
each grating has an optical reflection band characterized by a center wavelength; and
at least two gratings have different reflection bands; and
routing light via an arrayed waveguide grating (AWG) having an input port and two or more output ports coupled to the two or more optical waveguides, wherein, for each optical waveguide, the AWG is adapted to route light having a corresponding center wavelength from the input port to the output port coupled to said optical waveguide.

30. (Canceled)
31. (Previously presented) The method of claim 29, wherein at least two optical waveguides have different functional layers adapted to bind different analytes.
32. (Previously presented) A device, comprising an optical waveguide having a first grating, wherein:
at least a portion of the waveguide has a functional layer adapted to bind an analyte;
when the analyte binds to the functional layer, the binding changes optical characteristics of the waveguide; and
the device comprises a Mach-Zehnder interferometer (MZI) having two arms, wherein one arm includes the optical waveguide, wherein:
the optical waveguide has a second grating; and
the first and second gratings form an optical resonator.
33. (Previously presented) The device of claim 32, wherein the first and second gratings are adapted to couple light in and out of the optical resonator and to generate multiple round trips of the light within the resonator.
34. (Previously presented) The device of claim 32, wherein:
a section of the optical waveguide between the first and second gratings has the functional layer; and
the binding changes a differential phase shift in the MZI.
35. (Previously presented) A method for detecting an analyte, comprising:
transmitting light through an optical waveguide having a first grating; and
measuring the transmitted light using a photo-detector, wherein:
at least a portion of the waveguide has a functional layer adapted to bind the analyte;
the optical waveguide is a part of one arm of a Mach-Zehnder interferometer (MZI);
the optical waveguide has a second grating;
the first and second gratings form an optical resonator; and
when the analyte binds to the functional layer, the binding changes optical characteristics of the waveguide.
36. (Previously presented) The method of claim 35, wherein the first and second gratings are adapted to couple light in and out of the optical resonator and to generate multiple round trips of the light within the resonator.
37. (Previously presented) The method of claim 35, wherein:
a section of the optical waveguide between the first and second gratings is covered by the functional layer;
the binding changes a differential phase shift in the MZI; and
measuring the transmitted light comprises measuring the differential phase shift.
38. (Previously presented) The device of claim 22, wherein the optical resonator is formed by two gratings adapted to couple light in and out of the optical resonator and to generate multiple round trips of the light within the resonator.

39. (Previously presented) A device, comprising an optical waveguide having a first grating, wherein:
at least a portion of the waveguide has a functional layer adapted to bind an analyte;
when the analyte binds to the functional layer, the binding changes optical characteristics of the waveguide; and
the device further comprises one or more other optical waveguides, each having a grating, wherein:

each grating has an optical reflection band characterized by a center wavelength;
at least two gratings have different reflection bands; and
at least two optical waveguides have different functional layers adapted to bind different analytes.

40. (Previously presented) A method for detecting an analyte, comprising:
transmitting light through an optical waveguide having a first grating;
measuring the transmitted light using a photo-detector, wherein:
at least a portion of the waveguide has a functional layer adapted to bind the analyte;
and
when the analyte binds to the functional layer, the binding changes optical characteristics of the waveguide;
transmitting light through one or more other optical waveguides, each having a grating; and
measuring the transmitted light using a plurality of photo-detectors, wherein:
each grating has an optical reflection band characterized by a center wavelength;
at least two gratings have different reflection bands; and
at least two optical waveguides have different functional layers adapted to bind different analytes.

41. (New) A device, comprising:
an optical waveguide having a first grating; and
a Mach-Zehnder interferometer (MZI) having two arms, wherein:
at least a portion of the waveguide has a functional layer adapted to bind an analyte;
a plurality of grooves in the optical waveguide form the first grating;
at least some of the grooves are covered by the functional layer;
when the analyte binds to the functional layer, the binding changes optical characteristics of the waveguide; and
one arm includes the optical waveguide.

42. (New) The device of claim 41, wherein:
the optical waveguide has a second grating; and
the first and second gratings form an optical resonator.

43. (New) The device of claim 42, wherein:
a section of the optical waveguide between the first and second gratings has the functional layer; and
the binding changes a differential phase shift in the MZI.

44. (New) A method for detecting an analyte, comprising:
transmitting light through an optical waveguide having a first grating; and

measuring the transmitted light using a photo-detector, wherein:
at least a portion of the waveguide has a functional layer adapted to bind the analyte;
a plurality of grooves in the optical waveguide form the first grating; and
at least some of the grooves are covered by the functional layer;
when the analyte binds to the functional layer, the binding changes optical characteristics of the waveguide; and
the optical waveguide is a part of one arm of a Mach-Zehnder interferometer (MZI).

45. (New) The method of claim 44, wherein:
the optical waveguide has a second grating; and
the first and second gratings form an optical resonator.

46. (New) The method of claim 45, wherein:
a section of the optical waveguide between the first and second gratings is covered by the functional layer;
the binding changes a differential phase shift in the MZI; and
measuring the transmitted light comprises measuring the differential phase shift.